



The Official Monthly Newsletter of CSI Church, Toronto

# Pilgrim

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OCTOBER 2020



2020 Motto

**'Let us rise up and build'**

**'നാം എഴുന്നേറ്റ് പണിയുക'**

*Nehemiah 2:18*

**October 4 - Choir Sunday**

**Harvest Festival & Thanksgiving**

**- October 25**

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# Pilgrim

**OCTOBER 2020**

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## Editorial

*The pounding heart...*

Have you been counting all your benefits/ blessings? Have you made elaborate plans to give thanks? Great! Yet another thanksgiving is here. People celebrate it differently. Many people try to procure turkey, squash, and pumpkin to mark this statutory holiday. The Bible says, “*give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.*” The Word of God reminds us that it should not be just a one-time event, but it should flow out of our lives every moment.

*Bless the Lord, O my soul, all that is within me, bless His holy name!  
Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits. (Psalms 103:1-2)*

Thanksgiving was first observed as a “public thanksgiving and prayer” in The Province of Canada in 1859 by the protestant church leaders. Then the celebration lost its flavour and moved to that of a civic nature. Later it symbolized a thanksgiving prayer for a successful harvest. Now it is considered as a day for gathering family to give thanks for their general well-being. We also observe thanksgiving in conjunction with the Harvest Festival of our church. It is a time set apart to give thanks to our dear Lord for the bounty we received in our lives. Let us not limit it to one day but make it a life-long process as we do not actually deserve all the blessings we received.

It is quite normal that we remember all the negative things that has happened to us. But it takes a broken and contrite heart to acknowledge the plethora of blessings. When we embark on this journey, our hearts will be pounding to give thanks to our Maker and Redeemer.

Happy Thanksgiving.

Samuel Anselm Samuel  
Editor

## Achen's Message



Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

James 2:20 says that faith without works is dead. Salvation works are also tested before God. If saved and submitted, the next stage is purification. It happens in the name of God. Listen to Job 24:10. If you test me, I will come out like gold. In the third chapter of Daniel's prophecy, we see three young men who came out like gold. No harm will come to those who do not accept Jesus as Savior. But once you accept Jesus, suffering can come to seek us too.

God will bring us out like gold through the furnace of suffering. God will give us the grace and strength to overcome the experience of the furnace. Look at Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego. They believed that idols cannot be worshipped. It made their lives miserable. Yet they feared God. Fear the holiness of God. Who do we fear in our lives? It is idolatry to fear others more than God. If we fear our status more than God, it is idolatry. If we look at our way of life today, the fear of the media is also idolatry. So Let us live in the fear of God.

Corona is like a furnace. The whole world is in that furnace. Here we are only holding the hand of Jesus for salvation. Jesus' strong time will save us from this virus. So fear God and live in godliness. That should be our goal.

Our Sunday school & Malayalalokam virtual classes restarted and both classes are successful.

We celebrated the 74<sup>th</sup> anniversary of CSI on September 27. It was a virtual worship. We attended the CSI North American virtual thanksgiving service also in the evening of September 27, 2020.

We are planning to celebrate our harvest festival on October 25, 2020. The highest income of our church is from the harvest festival. So everyone should pray and sincerely participate and cooperate. Especially please submit your one day income to the church.

May God bless you all

Rev. Anish M George Padickamanni

6479948238





### New YouTube Channel Link – CSI Church, Toronto

Please note below the CSI Church, Toronto – YouTube Channel Link for Sunday Worship Service  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCF6C8AxfhNgMAVqQBvcMmww/live>

### On-line Giving (Interac e-Transfer)

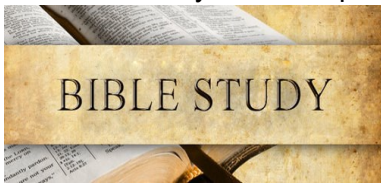
Please make your offering through on-line giving at [csichurchtoronto@outlook.com](mailto:csichurchtoronto@outlook.com)

### Intercessory Prayer Cell Fellowship

The Intercessory Prayer Cell Fellowship will take place on every Wednesday from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon in the Church Sanctuary. Please join the fellowship through **Virtual Worship**

### Bible Study – “The Coming of Jesus Christ”

The Bible study will take place on every Wednesday from 7:30 pm to 8:30 pm. The Bible Study provides an in-depth learning on the Second Coming of Jesus Christ. It also provides an opportunity for members to connect with and understand each other while continuing to build personal relationship with God. Anish Achen will be leading the Bible studies. Please plan to attend the Bible study through **Virtual fellowship**.



### Board Meeting

The board has decided to meet on every Sunday at 8:30 pm through video conferencing (GoToMeeting) during the restriction period of COVID-19.

### Choir Sunday – October 04, 2020

Sunday, October 04, 2020 will be observed as Choir Sunday

### Thanksgiving & Harvest Festival – October 25, 2020



Our Church Thanksgiving Service and Harvest Festival will be held on Sunday, October 25, 2020.

More information to follow .....

### Cottage Prayer

**Shalom** area prayer will be held on Saturday, October 03, 2020 at 7:30 pm . The prayer meeting is hosted by Siby Jacob and Ancy Jacob. Please join the virtual fellowship.

**Jordan** area prayer will be held on Friday, October 23, 2020 at 7:00 pm. The prayer meeting is hosted by Williams Silvanose and Suja Williams. Please join the virtual fellowship.

**Gilead** area prayer will be held on Saturday, October 17, 2020 at 7:30 pm. The prayer meeting is hosted by Dr. Sam Daniel and Selva Daniel . Please join the virtual fellowship.

*If you wish to be included in the parish e-mail list to receive special notices, please send an e-mail to the Secretary at [torcsichurch@gmail.com](mailto:torcsichurch@gmail.com)*

<p><b>October 04</b> Choir Sunday</p>	<b>Please and Worship through Devoted Life and Ministry</b>		
	Old Testament	Exodus 15:1-21	<b>English Service</b>
	Psalm	122	Read by
	Epistle	Revelation 19:1-16	Choir Members
	Gospel	Luke 19:36-40	
<p><b>October 11</b> 19<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</p>	<b>Sanctity of Life</b>		
	Old Testament	Exodus 4:10-17	<b>Malayalam Service</b>
	Psalm	37	Read by
	Epistle	2 Corinthians 12:1-10	John Cheriyan Mathew & Joby Paul
	Gospel	John 5:1-9	
<p><b>October 18</b> 20<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</p>	<b>Luke, Evangelist and Physician</b>		
	Old Testament	Isaiah 35:3-6	<b>English Service</b>
	Psalm	45	Read by
	Epistle	Colossians 4:10-15	Hans Thomas & Family
	Gospel	Luke 1:1-4	
<p><b>October 25</b> Harvest Festival</p>	<b>Thanksgiving for Harvest</b>		
	Old Testament	Deuteronomy 26:1-11	<b>Malayalam Service</b>
	Psalm	65	Read by
	Epistle	1 Timothy 6:6-13	Church Committee
	Gospel	Luke 21:1-4	



**BIRTHDAYS**

01	Sajan Itty	13	Rijo George Cherian
02	Joseph P. Mathews	14	Reshma George
02	Abraham K. Varghese	15	Joby Paul Mathew
02	Abel Binu	16	Grace Ann Samuel
04	Siby Jacob	17	Jucy Varghese
04	Darryl Thomas	18	Omana Saramma Eapen
05	Febil Sam Mathews	19	Stuthi P. Anish
06	Rev. Anish M. Padickamannil	20	Joshua Shaji Moothedom
06	Fremita Fredrick	20	Meera Jacob
07	Jithin George	21	Grace Elza George
07	Christy Abraham	21	Aghil V. Aji
08	Samuel Anselm Samuel	21	Pramod Punnoose
08	Neashini Govada	22	Jane Zaira Toms
09	Michael Govada	23	Sinu Susan Mathew
09	Kenneth Kuruvilla	24	Nittu Mathew Jacob
09	Geogy Thomas V	24	Sarah George
10	Anoop James	25	Sarah Oommen
10	Austin Christopher Peter	25	Susan Kurian
11	Maya Jacob	26	Shini Samuel
11	Micah Philip Jacob	27	Adam John Cherian
13	John Cheriyan Mathew	29	Hannah Anna Abraham
13	Isabel Johnson		



**ANNIVERSARIES**

- 03 Christy Abraham & Elizabeth Shirley Abraham
- 10 Jamal Masih & Kiran Masih
- 24 Philip Mathai & Diani Mathai
- 28 Ven. K. Sam Thomas & Sally Thomas
- 29 Rinu John Mathew & Anju Anna Jacob
- 30 Vilayil I. Kurian & Susan Kurian
- 30 Varghese V. John & Liji Varghese John
- 31 Bishan Ghosh & Sheeba Levison Ghosh
- 31 Pramod Punnoose & Sini Pramod

## Report after reading Gospel of Matthew

*Habel Kingson*

### Introduction

The book of Matthew is the first Gospel recorded in the Bible. It gives us an insight into the birth of Jesus Christ, all the way to his death on the cross, and his ascension to Heaven. During Jesus's earthly life, he taught many people (including his disciples) the teachings of God and, and how God wants us to act under his image. The theme of his teachings was based on loving God, as well as loving others (including those that don't wish well for you). In this report I am going to cover what I took from this book, and how it resonated with me.

### What I learned and liked from The Gospel

Like mentioned above, Matthew talks about Jesus and his mission before his crucifixion. A portion of the Gospel that I personally liked was Matthew 5:3-12. This talks about true happiness, and how whoever achieves it has much more to look forward to in Heaven. God doesn't consider earthly pleasures as "true happiness", it is much more than that. For example, 5:3 states, "Blessed are those who know they are spiritually poor; the Kingdom of heaven belongs to them". This explains to us that God's Kingdom is open to anyone, even if they do not know much about it. God is willing to bring anyone into his Kingdom, as long as they follow him, and do good in his image. The rest of this scripture talks about how happiness will be given to those who are humble, whose greatest desire is to follow God's will, and who is pure in heart and shows love for others. This gives readers an opportunity to think about what this means, and how they can accomplish these things, in order to bask in God's glory. It also brings them closer to the faith, and makes them want to know more and more about God and his commandments. In the gospel, Jesus also used a way of speech known as parables, in order to portray God's will to the common man. I personally liked this format of explanation as it paints an image in your head, so that you can better understand the concept of that teaching, and how to implicate it in your daily life. There are 2 parables in the Gospel which I found very interesting and important. The first is the parable of the lost sheep. This talks about how a shepherd took his 100 sheep to graze on the hill, when suddenly 1 of them gets lost. What do you think the shepherd would do? He would go straight for the lost sheep, searching high and low until he finds it, which gives him great joy over the other 99 sheep. The thing is, this parable means much more than that. The shepherd is God, while the sheep are God's children. If one sheep gets lost or carried away, this raises God's alarm. He will do all in his power to find that lost sheep (one of us) and bring him back home (God's glory). Overall, this parable explains that God doesn't want any of us to stray from his path, and he will do all he can to bring that lost "sheep" to the right path. The 2nd parable that I personally liked is the parable of the sower. This parable explains how there was a sower who sowed his corn on 4 different kinds of terrain. The first was where seeds were scattered on the path, and birds came and ate them up. The second was when the seeds fell on rocky ground with very little soil. The seeds sprouted, but were burnt up in the sun. The third showed how seeds were scattered among thorny bushes, and when they grew, they were choked by the thorns. The last was when the seeds fell among good soil, they produced grain, some a hundred fold, some sixty, and some thirty. Jesus later explained this parable, as his disciples and followers had no clue at all what



this meant. It goes like this; the seeds which fell on the path and got eaten up by birds represent those who pay no attention to the Kingdom of God, and Satan comes and takes them away. The seeds which fell in the rocky soil represent those who hear the message but it does not resonate with them, and they soon forget about it and lose hope. The seeds which fell in thorn bushes act as those who hear the message, but thoughts and concerns about this life and their love for money make the message fade away, as if it were a mist. Lastly, those seeds which fall in good soil constitute those who hear God's message, understand it, and live in God's image, bearing their riches in his Kingdom. So, what does this all mean? It means that God's message may fall on deaf ears, but those who take this message and forget about what will happen to their riches and wealth, God has a much bigger reward for them in Heaven. Basically, help those in need, and stop being so self centered. Other key things that I liked in the Gospel of Matthew were the different teachings of anger, love, devotion etc. Mainly all key things to live a good, prosperous life in God's will. Another factor which I liked was Jesus's ability to display hope, love, and faith to everyone. When he healed the sick, the crippled, and the poor he gave hope to them to keep their faith strong in God, and show love for one another. He fed 4000 and 5000 men, this showed his love for everyone, and everything. When Jesus walked on water, and when he calmed the storm, his disciples had no faith and were scared, but he showed them the way, the way to putting God first above anything else. It shows that as long as you have faith in God, anything impossible for man, is possible for God.

### **Conclusion:**

How will these concepts impact my life, and will God be pleased with the kind of man I will be someday?

The concepts of faith, love and hope are very important to living a good life in Christ. The apostle Paul even wrote "Out of faith, love, and hope-love is the most important". Having love for all, and hatred for none will really impact my life because I love everyone, I treat everyone with equality, and try to help where I can. After all, God wants people to love one another and help each other, as if they were all part of one big family. Faith and hope will help me to grow in Christ, so I can better understand his teachings, and do good in order to live a prosperous life. I think God will be pleased with how I turnout when I'm older as I will begin to show more love and affection to people, help others out, etc. I won't display hatred to others, and I will try my best to do as much good as possible. Overall, I think God will be pleased with my future self and not only that, I think I will be too.

**The Executive Committee Members of the CSI Church, Toronto**

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Sunday School Director	Mrs. Rejini Gajraj	Public Relations Director	Mr. Varghese V. John
Choir Director	Mr. Chris George	Social & Entertainment Director	Mr. Jacob P. John



*In everything give thanks,  
for this is the will of God  
in Christ Jesus for you.*

*1 Thessalonians 5:18*

*As you harvest your crops, bring the very best  
of the first harvest to the house of the LORD your God ...*

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